

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

KUEI-WU HUANG ET AL

Serial No.

09/517,987

Filed

March 3, 2000

For

METHOD OF FORMING PLANARIZED STRUCTURES IN

AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

Group No.

2812

Examiner

R. Booth

BOX DAC

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202

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Sir:

The undersigned hereby certifies that the following documents:

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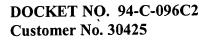
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PATENT

#17/5 12/7/01 V. Varnaes

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BOX CPA

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the request Continued Prosecution Application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows, substituting any amended claim(s) for the corresponding pending claim(s):